SUPERVISORY CONFERENCE April, 1953



In recent years a relatively new philosophy of administration, management, and supervision has gained wide acceptance in the fields of private and public administration. This new philosophy is sometimes called democratic management and sometimes referred to as human relations in management. Also, but less frequently, it is referred to by such terms as "human engineering," etc. Briefly, the terms simply express the philosophy that the worker who finds satisfaction in his work and who can find, within the framework of group effort, opportunity for expression of individuality and creativity, will be a willing and cooperative worker. Consistently such cooperation and willingness on the part of the worker has been found to be a basic factor in maximum production.

Of particular importance to those who participate in these conferences is the vital role occupied by supervisors in the process of democratic management. The supervisor is a leader and, as such, he is responsible for obtaining the concerted effort of those he supervises to achieve the goals of the organization. Therefore, we cannot over-emphasize that after technical skill itself, effective supervision is the key to maximum production through democratic management.

In order to achieve a better understanding of the meaning of democratic management and a consciousness of the vital role of the supervisor in efficient production, the topics for discussion in this series of meetings have been selected with the following objectives in mind:

- 1. To explore the nature of administration, management, and supervision in private and public administration. (lst 3rd week)
- 2. To investigate the development and logic of the principles of human relations in democratic management. (4th 5th week)
- 3. To relate the principles of human relations to everyday supervisory responsibilities. (6th week)

Method Fach member of the group has been assigned as a member of a small panel which will present one of the six major topics. Each panel will be moderated or chaired by a person who is not a member of the supervisory conference group.

There will be no fixed method of presentation of the topic. However, this matter is important from the viewpoint of conducting successful meetings and should merit the careful attention of the members of the panel and the panel chairman. Likewise, there will be no fixed "content" for the presentation of the topic as this will also be developed by the chairman and the members of the panel. However, the following guidelines are suggested:

- a. At least one case study, related to the topic for the session, should be presented for discussion by the entire group. Further, the panel members and chairmen should exert special effort to find additional means of emphasizing the practical application of basic supervisory principles to everyday office situations.
- b. Visual aids should be put to maximum use: blackboards, charts, graphs, film strips, short motion pictures. etc.
- c. Presentations by the panel should be closely timed and these presentations, plus discussion of the case study, should be short enough to permit at least one-half hour of discussion of the general topic by the entire group.

Panel members will be asked to prepare a written joint report summarizing their presentation of the assigned topic. This report should also include any significant aspects of the discussion of the topic during the meeting.

Topics or Areas of Study Following is a listing of the six topics which will constitute the areas of study during the course of this program. Under each topic there is listed a number of items related to the topic. This is not intended to be a comprehensive or mutually exclusive listing of all aspects of the topic which might be discussed, nor is it intended that the members of the panel should confine themselves to the aspects listed or that all aspects listed should necessarily be included in the presentations. The breakdown is meant merely to serve as a guideline or a starting point, or to give suggestions to the panel members. It is the responsibility of the panel members, with the advice and assistance of the panel chairman, to decide which aspects of their topic should be covered in the presentations.

The references following each topic are meant merely to be guides and starting points for the exploration of the subject, and participants should explore other literature related to their topic as much as possible.

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FIRST WEEK

Topic: Administration

Panel: Earl W. Loveridge, Assistant Chief, Forest Service, Moderator Charles A. Jackson, Jr.
Albert B. O'Donnell
Ralph Foreman
Reginald E. Cole

Analysis of framework within which administrators operate in the Federal Government, such as budget process, public opinion, constitutional law, statutory law, legislative-executive relations, etc; characterization of distinction between administration, management, and supervision; the "content" of the administrative process, such as planning, organizing, staffing, etc; administrative leadership; the group process in administration.

Suggested References:

Appleby, P., Policy and Administration

Barnard, C., The Functions of the Executive

Fayol, H., Industrial and General Administration, 1930

Gaus, J., Reflections on Public Administration

Gulick and Urwick, Papers on the Science of Administration, 1937

Holden, Fish-Smith, Top Management, Organization and Control

Learned, Ulrich and Booz, Executive Action

Leighton, A., The Governing of Men, 1945

Lepawsky, A., Administration, 1949

Metcalf and Urwick, Dynamic Administration - The Collected Papers of Mary Parker

Follett

Morstein Marx, Elements of Public Administration, 1949

Sheldon, O., The Philosophy of Management

Simon, H., Administrative Behavior, 1947

Simon, Smithburg and Thompson, Public Administration, 1950

Stein, H., Public Administration and Policy Development

Tead, O., The Art of Administration

Pamphlets and Periodicals:

Commentary, January 1947, pp. 79-88

Fortune, (Entire Issue), November 1946

Personnel Administration, January 1951. Vol. 14, No. I, pp. 15-31

SECOND WEEK

Topic: Organization

Panel: Mark M. Kirkham, Assistant Chief, (Administration), Bureau of Dairy
Industry, Agricultural Research Administration
Karl Itkin
Arthur H. Schartner
Denver G. Clubb
Stephen J. Lanigan

The historical development of organization principles; scalar principle; types of organization including functional and line-staff; the relation of line to staff units and vice-versa; problems of organization; unity of command; brief mention of the informal organization; (this should be fully covered at a later meeting); span of control; etc.

Suggested References:
Barnard, C., The Functions of the Executive, 1947
Brown, A., Management of Industry, 1948
Dutton, H. P., Principles of Organization, 1931
Gulick and Urwick, Papers on the Science of Administration, 1937, pp. 1-96
Holden, Fish-Smith, Top Management, Organization and Control
Lansburgh, Industrial Management, 1940
Miller and Form, Industrial Sociology, 1951
Mooney, The Principles of Organization
Morstein Marx, Elements of Public Administration, 1949
Simon, H., Administrative Behavior, 1947
Simon, Smithburg and Thompson, Public Administration, 1950

THIRD WEEK

Topic: Policy

Panel: Robert T. Beall, Executive Officer, Office of the Administrator, Rural Electrification Administration
Kenneth O. Peters
Julius J. Ausen
W. Bernard Loving
Charles R. Ballard

Definition of policy; how to formulate and execute policy, stressing policy both as a management technique and as a factor in management which affects human nature; distinction between legislative and administrative policy; distinction between policy and procedure; characteristics of good policy; etc.

Suggested References:
Appleby, P., Big Democracy
Appleby, P., Policy and Administration
Dimock, M., The Executive in Action
Gaus, J., Reflections on Public Administration
Glover and Hower, The Administrator, 1949
Heyel, C., Reading Course in Executive Technique (Section I, Book I)
Holden-Fish-Smith, Top Management, Organization and Control
Lepawsky, A., Administration
Morstein Marx, Elements of Public Administration, 1949
Pfiffner, The Supervision of Personnel, 1951
Pigors, P., Effective Communication in Industry
Seckler-Hudson, C., The Processes of Organization and Management
Simon, H., Administrative Behavior, 1947
Simon, Smithburg and Thompson, Public Administration, 1950

Pamphlets and Periodicals:
Zander, A., The Problem of Resistance in Creating Social Change, 1949

FOURTH WEEK

Topic: Management Techniques

Panel: Edward F. Wilson, Assistant Chief, Operations Division, Rural Electrification Administration John H. Scoltock Leo A. McCarthy Charles W. Fitch Stanley M. Sorensen

Origin and development of the scientific management movement; principles of scientific management; current trends; explanation and demonstration of production planning and control; work planning and scheduling; organization and methods techniques; work standards and work measurement; description of the results of the Hawthorne Studies.

Suggested References: Chase, S., Why Men Work Clark, W., The Gant Chart: Its Principles, Techniques, Application and Use Copley, F., Frederick W. Taylor: Father of Scientific Management, 1923 Davis, R., Industrial Organization and Management, 1940 Drury, H. B., Scientific Management, A History and Criticism Filipetti, G., Industrial Management in Transaction, 1946 Gardner, B., Human Relations in Industry, 1945 Gaus, Wolcott, Public Administration in the USDA Holden, Fish-Smith, Top Management, Organization and Control Lansburgh, Industrial Management, 1940 Maier, N., Psychology in Industry, 1946 Mayo, E., The Social Problems of an Industrial Civilization Niles, M. C., Middle Management Person, H. S. (Editor), Scientific Management in American Industry Pfiffner, J., Public Administration, 1946 Pfiffner, J., The Supervision of Personnel, 1951 Riegel, J. W., Management, Labor and Technological Change, 1942 Shell, I., The Techniques of Industrial Control Simon, Smithburg and Thompson, Public Administration, 1950 Spriegel, W., Personnel Management, 1948 Taylor, F. W., Scientific Management, 1947 Thompson, C. B., The Theory and Practices of Scientific Management, 1917 Yoder, D., Personnel Management and Industrial Relations, 1948 Roethlisberger & Dickson, Management and the Worker Roethlisberger, F., Management and Morale, 1941 Pamphlets and Periodicals: Commentary, January 1947, pp. 79-88 Fortune, November 1946 (Article on Elton Mayo)

"Progress in Scientific Management," H. S. Person, Vol. 12, pp. 95-102, Septem-

"Planned Execution; The Issue of Scientific Management," H. S. Person, Vol. 10,

"Genius of Frederick W. Taylor," H. S. Person, Vol. 10, pp. 2-11, January 1945

Personnel Administration, V. 14, No. 1, pp. 15-31

ber, 1947

pp. 131-138, December 1945

FIFTH WEEK

Topic: Human Factors in Management

Panel: Carl C. Taylor, Consultant on Rural Community Development Problems, Office of Foreign Agricultural Services, Moderator

Ray P. Stokely Joseph H. Brewer G. L. Woodworth Viola Schmidt

Belief systems and attitudes; morale and motivation; individual differences; leadership; communications; employee participation in management; full explanation of the informal organization; etc.

Suggested References:

Halsey, Handbook of Personnel Management

Halsey, Supervising People, 1946

Halsey, Training Employees

Hoslett, S. D., Human Factors in Management, 1946

Kalsem, P. J., Practical Supervision

Laird, D. A. & E. C., Practical Business Psychology, 1951

Maier, N., Psychology in Industry McCormick, The Power of the People

Miller & Form, Industrial Sociology, 1951

Metcalf & Urwick, Dynamic Administration: The Collected Papers of M. P. Follett

Mosber & Kingsley, Public Personnel Administration Roethlisberger, F. J., Management and Morale, 1941 Pfiffner, J., The Supervision of Personnel, 1951

Simon, Smithburg & Thompson, Public Administration, 1950

Tead & Metcalf, Personnel Administration; Its Principles and Practice, Third Ed.

Tead, O., Human Nature and Management, 1933

Tead, O., The Art of Leadership

Watson, Goodwin, Civilian Morale, 1942

Whyte, W. F., Industry and Society

Yoder, D., Personnel Management and Industrial Relations

Pamphlets and Periodicals:

Advanced Management, Vol. 9, October, December 1944, pp. 148-153

Applied Anthropology, Vol. 4 (Spring 1945)

Scientific Monthly, "Bonds of Organization" March, 1948

SIXTH WEEK

Topic: Supervisors' Responsibilities in Personnel Management (If necessary to adequately cover the material, an extra meeting may be conducted.)

Strother B. Herrell, Assistant Director, USDA Office of Personnel, Panel: Moderator Louis K. Jorgensen Frank Speh Louis D. Knowles Charles P. Miller Warner T. Smith

Report on "Productivity, Morale, and Supervision in an Office Situation," by Katz, Maccoby and Morse; elements in the supervisor's personnel job: ascertaining employee problems, counseling, discipline, staffing and placement, classification, job descriptions, performance ratings, training and development, etc.

Suggested References:

Brooks, Earl, In-Service Training of Federal Employees, 1938

Chase, Stuart, Why Men Work

Halsey, G. D., Supervising People, 1946 Halsey, G. D., Training Employees, 1949

Hoslett, S. D., Human Factors in Management, 1946

Kalsem, P. J., Practical Supervision

Katz, Maccoby and Morse, Productivity, Morale and Supervision in an Office Situation

Leffingwell & Robinson, Textbook of Office Management, 1943

Leighton, A., Governing of Men, 1946

Miller & Form, Industrial Sociology, 1951

Mosher & Kingsley, Public Personnel Administration, Third Edition, 1950

Pfiffner, J. M., The Supervision of Personnel, 1951

Pigors & Meyers, Personnel Administration: A Point of View and a Method, 1947

Simon, Smithburg & Thompson, Public Administration, 1950

Tead & Metcalf, Personnel Administration; Its Principles and Practice, Third Ed. Torpey, W. G., Public Personnel Management, 1952

Pamphlets and Periodicals:

Staff Development - The Supervisor's Job, FSA Training Manual #6